

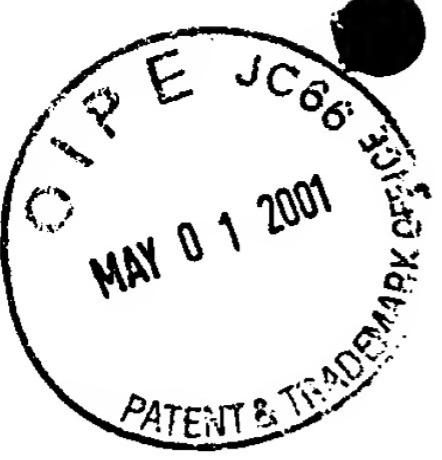


ATTACHMENT A

Clean Replacement Claims

Following herewith is a clean copy of each claim which replaces each previous claim having the same number.

7. (Twice Amended) A calcined two-layer carbon material characterized in that edge parts of a core carbon material are partially or entirely coated with a coat-forming carbon material, wherein the carbon material is nearly spheric or ellipsoidal, and has no grinding face, wherein the carbon material has a specific surface area determined by a BET method of $5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less and a covering ratio c defined as a weight ratio of coat-forming carbon material/(core carbon material + coat-forming carbon material) of $0 < c \leq 0.3$.



ATTACHMENT B

Marked Up Replacement Claims

Following herewith is a marked up copy of each rewritten claim.

7. (Twice Amended) A calcined two-layer carbon material characterized in that edge parts of a core carbon material are partially or entirely coated with a coat-forming carbon material, wherein the carbon material is nearly spheric or ellipsoidal, and has no grinding face, wherein the carbon material has a specific surface area determined by a BET method of $5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less and a covering ratio c defined as a weight ratio of coat-forming carbon material/(core carbon material + coat-forming carbon material) of $0 < c \leq 0.3$.

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Primary Examiner Weiner is thanked for the indication of allowability of claims 1, 3-6, 23, 27, 38 and 41-43.

In the Final Rejection mailed December 1, 2000, claim 40 was indicated as allowable over the prior art; while claims 1 and 7 were subject to the same prior art rejections. In Applicants' Amendment filed March 20, 2001, independent claim 1 was amended to include the limitations of claim 40 (claim 40 having then been canceled). In the Advisory Action mailed March 27, 2001, claim 1 was indicated as allowable. However, independent claim 7 and its dependent claims 9-12 and 39 were again rejected in view of the prior art. Accordingly, by this amendment, claim 7 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled claim 40 and is believed to be allowable over the prior art. The remaining rejected claims, which depend from claim 7, are also now believed to be allowable in view of the amendment to claim 7.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 1, 2001